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PHILADELPHIA, April, 1890.

From the New York *Tribune*, April 4th, 1890.

THE UTE INDIANS.

WHY PEOPLE IN COLORADO WANT THEM TO BE REMOVED.

DENVER, COL., April 3d (Special).—When Governer Cooper remarked to the *Tribune* correspondent a few days ago that the reason he favored the removal of the Ute Indians was because he wanted them out of the State, he summed up the philosophy of the situation. Such is the only excuse that can be given by any Coloradoan. During the last few days, your correspondent has met residents of all portions of Colorado, and in every instance they desired the Indians removed—out of feelings of malice and the usual race prejudice. As far as the Indians themselves are concerned, it makes but little difference to them how often they are asked to change their place of residence. This is accounted for by the bribes offered by the commissioners when appointed and fairy tales sung in their ears. It is a noticeable fact that the Southern Utes have taken no interest whatever in their present reservation, owing to the uncertainty as to how long they will be allowed to remain. In case they are removed to Utah, in less than a year the Territorial Legislature will be petitioning Congress to move them into Arizona, while that Territory will never be satisfied until they are dumped into the Pacific.

Among the more prominent preachers in Denver is the Rev. H. H. Beach, who has spent many years in Southern Colorado, and is conversant on all matters pertaining to the Utes. Mr. Beach is at the present time pastor of one of the principal churches here, and recently directed a letter to Commissioner Morgan, opposing the proposed removal. As this letter attracted considerable attention among the Denver newspapers, its writer

has handed to the *Tribune* correspondent the following communication:—

"I need not claim an extraordinary acquaintance with the Southern Utes. Facts commonly and well known East and West not only justify the severest condemnation of the effort to remove them to Utah, but call for the protest of every man who sympathizes with the weak and misused. I refer to such facts as these:—

"1. A fair proportion of the Utes have dug irrigating ditches, even the women and children engaging in the work, and otherwise improved themselves farms, established comfortable homes and adopted many of the customs of civilized life. Of course it may be said that they neither form home attachments nor value property as we do, and so may, in perfect justice, be frightened and reduced to the wilderness; but I would not give the statement much weight.

"2. Only a small proportion, the more indolent and vicious, such a class as curses every community, was at first willing to go. It was notoriously difficult for the commissioners to gain the consent of the people. And what were the arguments and means by which they at last accomplished it? Such as make every loyal Coloradoan blush—appeals to barbarous instincts, the very elements of character that every magnanimous man would subdue in them, bribery and broad hints of encroachment, perhaps another war (?) and the eventual loss of their property, their homes and their lives. Are we bandits? Adair Wilson and Denver newspapers, particularly *The Sundown Chestnut*, need not wonder that unbiased people of New York and Boston fail to feel the force of the argument that the Utes very generally consented to removal. History repeats itself. A portion, at least, of the Cherokees, in 1835, consented, but their removal proves to be an indelible stain, not only on Georgia, but on the whole country. The highwayman gains the consent of his victims.

"3. We want the reservation for ourselves. We covet those ranches and the whole Territory. 'School lands will not last forever. Out with the Utes.' 'But . . . they are lazy and low-lived.' Have the men who tolerate the low streets of Denver, the saloons, the gambling dens, the many houses of iniquity, and

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the Greasers of Archuleta and Conejos Counties grown suddenly virtuous? Let us hope so. But cupidity is too evident, and, besides, the proposed removal is not reformatory.

"Is anybody distressed because one citizen of Colorado has spoken a word or two in behalf of these poor creatures? Have we not more reason to feel distressed that the human sentiments of thousands of citizens have not found utterance loud enough to ring throughout all the land? If one or forty could prevent the consummation of a heartless scheme they might, I think, enjoy the consciousness of having saved their State another disgrace."

What Colorado lacks is more candid and outspoken men like Mr. Beach.